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From the Society for Developmental Biology

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

This year, 2009, the Society for Developmental Biology turns 70 and DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY commemorates 50 years of publication, 43 of which as the official journal of the society. SDB President Marianne Bronner-Fraser is organizing the annual meeting to celebrate this unique occasion: July 23–27 at Hyatt Regency-Embarcadero in San Francisco, CA. We invite you to join us and present your latest data at this meeting. Please check SDB website (<http://www.sdbonline.org>) for program updates and online submission of abstracts and registration.

Elsevier, owner and publisher of DB printed a commemorative calendar highlighting past DB covers, and has been mailed it to all current SDB members, in addition to some other special people. Editor-in-Chief Robb Krumlauf has commissioned special reviews throughout the year to point to some of the past breakthroughs and new advances in the field of developmental biology. In addition, special anniversary lectures will be given at SDB annual and regional meetings. We encourage you to submit your manuscripts to DB and commemorate the years of high quality publishing with us.

FRONTIERS IN DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY – a brief report

The second, and very successful, short course SDB co-organized with LASDB (Latin American SDB) was held at the Fundación Instituto Leloir in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Oct 23–Nov 1, 2008. The course

organizers were Eric Wieschaus (SDB Past-President), Pablo Wappner (Inst. Leloir) and Ida Chow (SDB Exec. Officer); and there were 29 students, 23 instructors and 10 lab assistants. The course was supported by a major grant from the Pan-American Advanced Studies Institute Program from NSF (National Science Foundation, USA) and DOE (Department of Energy, USA), and also by grants from NICHD/NIH (National Institute of Child and Human Health and Development/National Institutes of Health, USA) and UNU-Biolac (United Nations University-Biotechnology for Latin America and the Caribbean). We also want to acknowledge the hard work Wappner Lab members put in before and during the course to make this course run as smoothly as it did, besides the excellent dinner choices that kept us within budget!

The program, list of participants, reading materials, lectures, lab protocols and data (photos and movies) collected from the practical sessions are being uploaded gradually to the short course website (<http://www.sdbonline.org/2008ShortCourse/course.htm>). Participants of the course and other interested people may consult the site for educational purposes.

The 29 students were selected from a pool of 110, 15 from Latin American countries and 14 from the US (one withdrew at the last minute due to US immigration problems). They all worked very diligently and actively participated in all the activities, academic and otherwise. The lab facilities provided by the Instituto and the microscope set-ups Pablo Wappner was able to borrow from the local Olympus distributor provided excellent opportunities for the



Short course participants on the front steps of Fundación Instituto Leloir, Buenos Aires, October 2008.

students to gain hands-on experience on some of the basic developmental biology protocols used on plant, fly, planarian, fish, frog, chick and mouse. A session on fundamentals of genomics and microarrays, including using online resources gave the students an idea of what to

look for when they read papers or plan experiments using these approaches.

Ida Chow



Society for Developmental Biology
68th Annual Meeting

celebrating

DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY
50th Anniversary

and

SDB 70th Anniversary

July 23-27, 2009
Hyatt Regency Hotel
San Francisco, CA

www.sdbonline.org